With Gov. Whitaker's Compts.

Feby 17/06.

HORWICH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year ended 31st December, 1905.

G. H. WHITAKER, M.O.H.

H. FLETCHER, PRINTER, HORWICH.

HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Horwich Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my 30th Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Horwich District.

The total population of the district estimated to the middle of the year 1905, is 15,886.

Deaths.—The total number of deaths registered, taking into calculation the deaths of residents outside the district in Public Institutions, and also reckoning residents from outside the district who died in Public Institutions in this district, was 215—of these 104 were males and 111 females. This gives a nett death rate of those belonging to the district of 13·5 per 1,000.

During the year 1904 the deaths amounted to 217, with an annual rate of 13·6 per 1,000 ; males 117, females 100.

The average for the past ten years was 234, with a rate of 15·2, calculated on an average population of 15,345.

Births.—During the year 1905 the births of 454 children were registered—225 boys and 229 girls—equal to a birth rate of 28·5 per 1,000 per annum.

In the year 1904 there were registered 464 births—242 boys and 222 girls—equal to a birth rate of 29·2 per 1,000.

The average births of the past ten years was 507 with a rate of 33·4 per 1,000.

The deaths are decreased by 2 and the births decreased by 10.

Six persons belonging to the district died in Public Institutions outside the district, and 3 persons died in the Fall Birch Hospital belonging to other districts.

The natural increase to the population is 239.

The age mortality was as follows: under one year, 67; one year and under five, 37; five and under fifteen, 11; fifteen and under twenty five, 7; twenty five and under sixty five, 56; sixty five and upwards, 37.

With this report I submit Tables I, II, III, IV, and V, required by the Local Government Board.

Table I gives vital statistics for the year 1905, and ten previous years.

Table II gives vital statistics for the year 1905, of the separate wards and the ten previous years.

Table III gives the cases of infectious disease notified during the year 1905, distinguishing different ages and separate wards.

Table IV gives causes of, and ages at death during the year under consideration.

Table V is new, dealing with the infantile mortality during the year, giving the deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age. Births in the year—illegitimate and legitimate, and deaths in the year from all causes.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths of children under five years of age numbered 104, including the deaths of 67 infants under the age of one year. During 1904 the mortality under five years was 101, including 57 infants under one year old. The infantile mortality measured in the proportion of deaths under one year old to 1,000 births was 149 as compared with 135 last year. The average for the past ten years is 156.

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Zymotic Diseases.—The number of deaths due to the principal zymotic diseases, including Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Enteric Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa was 27 ; equal to an annual rate of 1·6 per 1,000, compared with 19 deaths from these causes in the previous year.

The deaths were attributed to Measles, 14; Scarlet Fever, 2; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 3 ; Whooping Cough, 1 ; and Diarrhœa, 7.

Diseases of Respiratory Organs.—31 deaths were due to these affections. Pneumonia, 24 ; Bronchitis, 6 ; and Pleurisy, 1. A rate of 1·9 per 1,000, being a decrease of 9 on the mortality in 1904 when the number was 40.

Consumption of the Lungs caused 8 deaths compared with 10 in 1904 ; a satisfactory decrease.

Infectious Sickness.—The total number of notifications received during the year amounted to 157, being an increase of 18 on those received during 1904 when 139 were notified.

The diseases notified being Diphtheria, 29 ; Membranous Croup, 2 ; Erysipelas, 17 ; Scarlet Fever, 93 ; and Enteric Fever, 16. The increase being mainly due to an epidemic of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

Again Scarlet Fever heads the list, with an increase of 13 compared with 1904. A number of the cases on the first outbreak in April were treated at home instead of being isolated in the hospital.

The Ward distribution of notifications was North 41, South 41, East 35, and Central 40 ; during the previous year North Ward had 27, South 47, East 38, and Central 27.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—31 cases notified with three deaths. In connection with this complaint dampness of houses and surroundings should receive attention.

Enteric Fever.—16 cases notified with no deaths. Four cases were identified with an outbreak in another district.

Puerpural Fever.—No cases notified.

Whooping Cough.—One death recorded.

Measles were epidemic at the beginning of the year with 14 fatal results, school closure had to be recommended which was put in force. In January it was found that 325 children were absent from school on account of measles.

Scarlet Fever.—Of the 93 cases only two deaths were recorded.

Erysipelas.—17 cases notified with no fatal results.

Small Pox.—The district remained free from any outbreak of this disorder.

Precautions against the spread of Infectious Disease.—Since the beginning of April the Isolation Hospital at Fall Birch has been available for the treatment of Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, and Diphtheria; the cases removed from this district to the Institution were Scarlet Fever 62, Typhoid Fever 10, and Diphtheria and Membranous Croup 12. In one instance where the first case was only removed to Hospital in the peeling stage six other cases occurred in the same house, and in another case only one suffered from the disease out of a family of eight through prompt removal.

In all cases disinfectants are supplied, and disinfection of bedding and clothing carried out under the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

73 cases were treated at home, a number refusing hospital treatment.

Inspections are regularly and specially made throughout the district.

Water Supply.—This has been plentiful and good during the year except during the dry season when a shortage was experienced, but this will be overcome when the new reservoir at "Marklands," which is making good constructive progress, is completed.

General Sanitary Work.—This has been well carried out and diligently attended to during the year. Again a great number of nuisances have been dealt with—851 in all.

Scavenging.—The whole of this work is done by the Council. During the year 14,966 privies and ashpits were emptied, compared with 14,180 in the previous year, and the refuse from pails and dust bins cleared away weekly; 4,560 loads being removed and tipped on Red Moss.

Lodging Houses.—There are three Lodging Houses on the register. One house was closed, the owner requiring the premises for other purposes. A license has been granted to occupier of 18, Julia Street; the premises are regularly inspected and have been found clean and well ventilated.

Slaughter Houses.—There are four in the district, two registered and two licensed. They are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The places where food has been prepared and exposed for sale have been kept under observation. There were no seizures or prosecutions during the year. The offal from one beast was condemned and destroyed.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—These have been periodically inspected. Four old dilapidated cowsheds were abolished and two new ones erected. One new farm has been erected. More attention is paid to the general cleanliness, and all have been lime-washed and kept in better condition.

Smoke.—The chimneys of the district were under observation. It has been necessary to complain of the amount of smoke from several works. Owners were interviewed who promised to do all in their power to minimise the nuisance.

Legal Proceedings.—15 persons were summoned for chimney firing and the usual penalty enforced.

Nuisances, &c.—During the year 135 letters were written regarding nuisances, 125 preliminary and 99 statutory notices served. No legal proceedings were taken. Total nuisances abated, 851.

Summary of action taken by Inspector of Nuisances.—

Defective drains and closets opened 167 and relaid 64	
Defective soil pipes and ventilating shafts repaired ...	6
New system of drains to houses	57
Defective house roofs repaired	20
New waste pipes from sinks fixed	67
New gutters and spouts fixed	35
Filthy and dilapidated privies abolished	59
New water closets constructed to replace privies and for additional accommodation	41
Numbers of other sanitary improvements were effected.	

In all cases of infectious disease the premises were visited and inspected, isolation in hospital recommended, removal of patient attended to, and the houses cleaned and disinfected. 142 notices served to cleanse after infection.

Sewage Disposal.—The amended scheme submitted by the Council for the extension of Sewage Disposal Works has been approved by the Local Government Board. The Council have now borrowing powers for £14,223 for the proposed improvements which consist of sludge pressing installation, re-arrangement of tanks and the construction of 11 circular automatic sprinklers, filters, &c. The Council have issued instructions for estimates, specifications, quantities, &c., so that tenders may be asked for at an early date.

Main Sewerage.—I am pleased the Council have during the year approved a scheme for the drainage of a number of outlying places in the district, viz. Bottom-o'th'-Moor, Higher Barn, Latham Row, Lostock Park, Scholes Bank, and Heavily Grove and when these works are carried out a desirable improvement will be effected.

Bake-Houses—These were inspected and found satisfactory.

Factories and Workshops.—These have been regularly inspected. They now form the subject of a special report, a copy accompanies this document. Two water closets have been fixed at workshops to replace pail closets. Closet accommodation has been provided at two quarries. No offences are reported under the Act.

The Sanitary Inspector's report again displays great activity and diligence in his department. During the year he has successfully passed the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute for meat and other foods, and obtained their certificate.

The death rate is low and is a satisfactory feature of the report.

The principal sanitary works of the year has been the opening of the Fall Birch Isolation Hospital and the progress made with the new reservoir at "Marklands."

A severe and widespread epidemic of Scarlet Fever has been encountered, isolation measures being taken advantage of by the majority of the families affected, and with satisfactory results.

A special report on the Isolation Hospital is made to the Joint Hospital Committee.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE H. WHITAKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Horwich, February 5th, 1905.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years

Horwich Urban Sanitary District.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents register'd in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents register'd in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Year.		At all Ages.						
		Number	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births register'd	Number	Rate *				Number	Rate *
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	14500	581	40·06	103	177	272	18·7				273	18·8
1896	14850	534	35·9	80	149	252	16·9				252	16·9
1897	15132	520	34·3	87	167	247	16·3				247	16·3
1898	15400	518	33·6	78	150	205	13·3		2		203	13·1
1899	15700	485	30·8	76	156	225	14·3		2		223	14·2
1900	15960	526	32·9	82	155	265	16·6			1	266	16·6
1901	15084	462	30·6	75	162	205	13·7			3	211	13·9
1902	15337	486	31·6	47	96	209	13·6			5	214	13·9
1903	15614	496	31·7	62	125	237	15·1		1	4	240	15·3
1904	15873	464	29·2	61	131	207	13·4			10	217	13·6
Averages for years 1895-1904.	15345	507	33·4	75	156	232	15·1			2	234	15·2
1905	15886	454	28·5	67	149	212	13·3	5	3	6	215	13·5

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) } 3,211.

At Census of 1901.
- Total population at all ages ... 15,084
- Number of inhabited houses ... 3,158
- Average number of persons per house 4·7

TABLE II. **Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905, and previous years.**

HORWICH URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Names of Localities.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				NORTH WARD.				SOUTH WARD.				EAST WARD.				CENTRAL WARD.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*
1895 ...	14500	581	272	103	3588		54	17	3469		46	21	3732		72	26	3697		100	29
1896 ...	14850	534	252	80	3682		63	19	3345		58	19	3823		57	16	3792		74	26
1897 ...	15132	520	247	87	3752		55	15	3618		58	17	3895		59	18	3865		75	37
1898 ...	15400	518	205	78	3752		45	20	3617		39	13	3965		58	29	3934		63	16
1899 ...	15700	485	225	76	3893		47	13	3754		46	17	4041		53	17	4010		79	29
1900 ...	15960	526	265	82	3964		73	20	3816		60	18	4108		56	19	4077		76	25
1901 ...	15084	462	208	75	3640	100	44	14	3608	116	47	16	3983	113	51	14	3853	133	66	31
1902 ...	15337	486	209	47	3796	120	56	15	3676	121	36	11	3945	103	56	9	2929	142	61	14
1903 ...	15614	496	241	62	3860	105	59	15	3761	142	56	14	3992	120	62	15	4001	129	64	19
1904 ...	15873	464	217	61	3904	102	48	10	3803	114	62	14	4039	110	42	9	4046	138	65	24
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904.	15345	507	232	75	3793	107	64	15	3646	123	50	14	3942	111	56	17	4204	135	72	25
1905 ...	15886	454	215	67	3823	103	52	16	3795	113	54	15	3982	111	50	12	4286	127	59	24

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

HORWICH URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.				NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 North Ward	2 South Ward	3 East Ward	4 Centr'l Ward	1 North Ward	2 South Ward	3 East Ward	4 Centr'l Ward
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upw'ds								
Small Pox															
Cholera															
Diphtheria...	29		7	14	5	3		6	9	7	7	2	3	1	5
Membranous Croup ...	2		2					1	1			1			
Erysipelas	17		2	1	2	12		4	5	3	5				
Scarlet Fever	93		27	55	8	3		27	19	20	27	15	7	17	23
Typhus Fever															
Enteric Fever	16		1	5	5	5		3	7	5	1	2	5	3	
Relapsing Fever															
Continued Fever															
Puerperal Fever															
Plague															
Totals	157		39	75	20	23		41	41	35	40	20	15	21	28

Isolation Hospital.—Horwich, Westhoughton, and Blackrod Joint Hospital, at Fall Birch Horwich.

TABLE IV.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

Horwich Urban Sanitary District.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occuring in or beyond the District.				Total Deaths whether of Residents or non "Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	North Ward	South Ward	East Ward	Centr'l Ward	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Small Pox												
Measles	14	3	11					2	7	1	4	
Scarlet Fever	2		2							2		2
Whooping-Cough ...	1		1								1	
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	3		2	1					1	1	1	1
Croup	1			1						1		
Fever { Typhus												
Fever { Enteric												2
Fever { Other continued												
Epidemic Influenza ...	2					1	1	1		1		
Cholera												
Plague												
Diarrhœa...	7	7							2	1	4	
Enteritis	6	4	1				1			3	3	
Puerperal Fever... ...												
Erysipelas												
Other septic diseases ...												
Phthisis	8				3	4	1	1	2	3	2	
Other Tubercular diseases	16	5	6	4		1		5	1	3	7	
Cancer, malignant disease	12					9	3	5	5	2		
Bronchitis	6	1				2	3	1	1	1	3	
Pneumonia	24	6	8	2		6	2	7	3	8	6	
Pleurisy	1					1					1	
Other Diseases of Respiratory organs	1					1				1		
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of liver } ...	1					1					1	
Venereal Diseases ...												
Premature Birth... ...	18	18						4	6	4	4	
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1			1			
Heart Diseases	17	2		1	3	9	2	6	3	4	4	
Accidents...	8	1	1	1	1	3	1	4		2	2	
Suicides	1					1		1				
All other causes	65	20	5	1		16	23	15	22	12	16	
All causes	215	67	37	11	7	56	37	52	54	50	59	5

TABLE V.

HORWICH URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under one Year.
All Causes.	Certified	14	3	4	1	22	9	5	5	2	1	2	4	1	3	2	8	64
	Uncertified							1	2									3
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox																	
	Measles														1		2	3
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria: Croup ...																	
	Whooping Cough ...																	
Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms ...								1						1			2
	Enteritis (*not Tuberculous*)						1	1	2				2		1		1	8
	Gartritis, Gastroin-testinal Catarrh																	
Wasting Diseases;	Premature Birth ...	12	1	2		15	1	2										18
	Congenital Defects ...	1	1	1	1	4	2		2				1					9
	Injury at Birth ...																	
	Want of Breast-milk ...																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	1	1		3	1	2										6
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis.											1						1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica						1		1	1							1	4
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*)						1				1	1		1		1		5
	Convulsions									1			1					2
	Bronchitis						1											1
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia						1	1								1	3	6
	Suffocation, overlaying.								1									1
	Other Causes																1	1
		14	3	4	1	22	9	6	7	2	1	2	4	1	3	2	8	67

Births in the year { Legitimate 442. / Illegitimate 12.

Population estimated to middle of 1905, 15,886.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 215.

Horwich Urban Sanitary District.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories...	21	0	0
Workshops	56	2	0
Workplaces	15	1	0
Homeworkers' Premises	10	1	0
Total	102	4	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Proscutions
	Found.	Remedied.	Refered to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	2	2		
Other nuisances	6	6		
Sanitary Accommodation—unsuitable or defective ...	4	4		
Total	12	12		

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

	Number of	
	Lists	Outworkers
Homework :—		
Lists received	3	3
Workshops on the Register at the end of 1905 :—		
Factories		12
Workshops		16
Workplaces		28
Bakehouses		15
Total number of workshops on Register		71